Council on Postsecondary Education Committee on Equal Opportunities June 16, 2003

Equal Educational Opportunity Planning 1997-2002 KY Plan and Partnership Agreement

Current Status: The Commonwealth has not received formal notice of its status regarding the partnership with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights. OCR staff has indicated that a final report has been delivered to their Washington, D. C., office for review, comment, and sign-off but the review and comment process is not yet complete. A final determination of Kentucky's status was due by March 31, 2003. Because all of the commitments in the agreement have not been completed, it is possible that the Office for Civil Rights may choose to extend the partnership.

Partnership commitments not yet completed: The commitments in item #3 not yet completed are: a) the renovation of KSU's Hathaway Hall classroom and office building; b) the renovation of KSU's Young Hall dormitory; c) KSU's assurance to substantially narrow the gap between the performance rate of its students on the PRAXIS II as compared to the Kentucky statewide performance average; and d) UofL's Pathways Program.

Partnership commitments completed: The OCR has indicated in previous reports that the Commonwealth has completed the commitments identified in items #1 and #2. Portions of the commitments identified in item #3 also have been completed. The commitments completed are: a) the renovation of KSU's Carver Hall classroom building; b) KSU's development and implementation of a program of communication and diversity training; c) CPE's analysis and assurance that the benchmark funding process will not disadvantage KSU; d) the collaboration of KSU, UK, UofL, and the Council to enhance and strengthen KSU's education program; and e) the Governor and the Postsecondary Education Nominating Board's assurance that the KSU Board of Regents is of the highest caliber.